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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,486	08/11/2006	Darren Mark Le Grand	4-33361A	2308

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NOVARTIS INSTITUTES FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, INC.
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EXAMINER

CHUNG, SUSANNAH LEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1626

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/22/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/568,486	LE GRAND, DARREN MARK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SUSANNAH CHUNG	1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2009.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 11-17 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/15/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 11-20 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-10 were canceled by preliminary amendment.

Priority

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/10260, filed 09/14/2004.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) by application nos. 0321600.9 and 0321599.3 filed in the United Kingdom Patent Office on 09/15/2003, which papers have been placed of record in the file. The application names an inventor or inventors named in the prior application.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS), filed on 2/15/06 has been considered. Please refer to Applicant's copy of the 1449 submitted herewith.

Response to Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I, claims 11-17, in the reply filed on 5/4/09 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground that formula (Ib) was not mentioned in Group I and Applicants request rejoinder of Formula (Ib) with the search of Formula (Ia). Formula (Ib) and (Ia) will be searched together.

Therefore, for the above reasons, the requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore maintained.

Scope of the Elected Invention

Claims 11-20 are pending in this application. Claims 18-20 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 C.F.R. §1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-

elected invention. The withdrawn subject matter is patentably distinct from the elected subject matter as it differs in structure and element and would require separate search considerations. In addition, a reference, which anticipates one group, would not render obvious the other.

The scope of the elected subject matter that will be examined and searched is as follows: Claims 11-17 in its entirety.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The “anti-tussive substance” is not defined in the specification so as to know the structures of the compounds that are included and/or excluded by the term. Therefore, the specification lacks adequate support for Claim 15.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 15 is indefinite for the reasons set forth above under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claim 15 is drawn to an “anti-tussive substance.”

However, the “anti-tussive substance” of the compound is not defined in the claims so as to know the metes and bounds of the claims. Therefore, the claim is indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the “free or salt form” is unclear. Is it a pharmaceutical salt or some other salt form? Further clarification is requested.

Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the pharmaceutical composition only contains one component, i.e. the compound. Pharmaceutical compositions require at least two components, i.e. a compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Obviousness Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA

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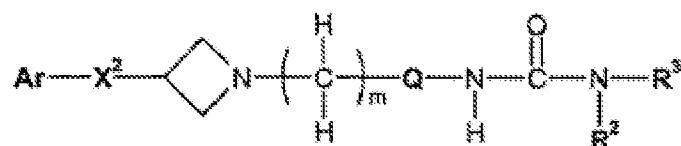
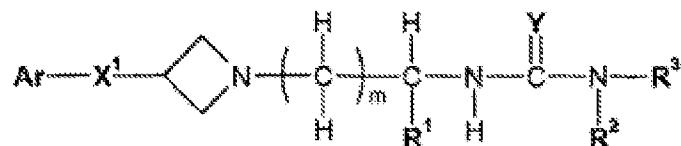
1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

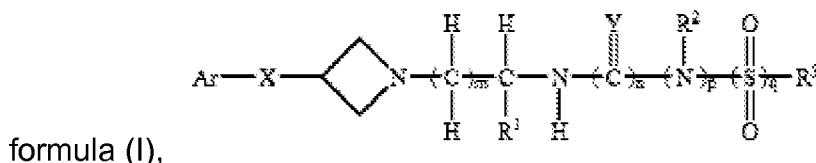
Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 11-17 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-7, 12-13 and 15-18 of US Pat No 7,288,537 ('537 App).

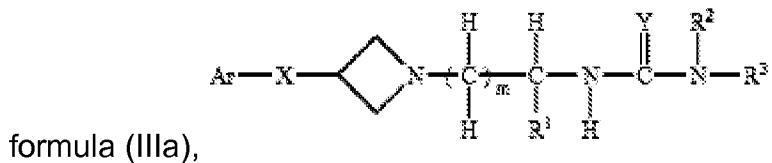
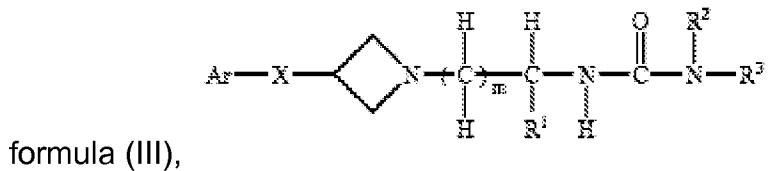
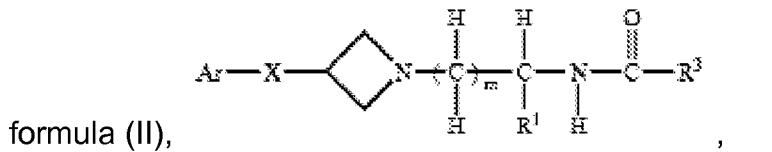
Instant claim 11 claims a compounds of formula (Ia) and (Ib),



The '537 Pat claims a compound of



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The difference between the claims of the '537 Pat and the instant claims is the scope of the compounds being claimed.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that although the scope may be different, the same compounds are being claimed.

In the absence of showing unobvious results, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention when faced with the prior filed applications that the instantly claimed compounds would be known. The method of making the instantly claimed compounds and compounds of the '537 Pat are similar and in some cases the same compounds are being claimed. When faced with the '537 Pat, a skilled artisan would be able to make and use the instantly claimed compounds and vice versa.

The instant obviousness rejection is based on the close structural similarity of the instantly claimed compounds to the prior filed application compounds and the common

utility shared among the compounds. There is an expectation among those of ordinary skill in the art that similar structural compounds will have similar properties and that modification of a known structure is mere experimentation within the means of a skilled artisan. See MPEP 2144.09(I). Therefore, claims 11-17 are rejected as obvious over the prior art.

Claim Objections

Claims 16 and 17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claims 11 and 14. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susannah Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-6098. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on (571) 272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Susannah Chung/
Examiner, Art Unit 1626